

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

**A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT**

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 76 and 80.
2. Add new independent apparatus claim 81 and new claims 82 – 83
3. Amend claims 1 – 3, 73, and 76 to depend from new independent claim 81.
4. Amend claims 11, 16, 17, 73 – 76 for consistency with new independent claim 81.
5. Add new independent method claim 84 and new claims 85 – 86 dependent thereon.
6. Amend claims 36 – 38, 77, and 80 to depend from new independent claim 84.
7. Amend claims 44, 45, 51, 52, 77 – 80 for consistency with new independent claim 84.
8. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

**B. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 73, 77, 74, 78, 1-5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18-20, 22-27, 36-40, 42-44, 46, 47, 49-51, 53-55 and 57-62 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,891,833 to Caves et al. Claims 13, 17, 48 and 52 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,430,189 to 6,891,833 to Caves. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

New independent apparatus claim 81 and new independent method claim 84 include some of the subject matter found allowable in dependent claims 76 and 80<sup>1</sup>. Specifically, new independent claims 81 and 84 both recite a connection handling functionality over the cluster of the plural processors, the connection handling functionality comprising software objects configured for setup or release of connections; with the software objects including a connection object configured to activate a resource user plane control object corresponding to a particular user plane resource involved in a bearer service connection.

Support for new independent claims 81 and 84 resides in prior claims 73/76 and 77/80, as well as the second paragraph of Applicants' Brief Summary portion of the specification.

Both independent claims 81 and 84 distinguish over U.S. Patent 6,891,833 to Caves et al. Caves does not disclose a structure of software objects as recited in the present claims, and really does not discuss software much if at all. Caves' AAL2 port and switch modules, which are controlled by Caves' signaling servers, are hardware modules rather than software modules. Caves' resources pool 63 comprises devices which are connected to certain ones of the switch modules (col. 9, lines 20 *et seq.*) Caves does not teach or suggest any software objects which correspond to the resources of pool 63, much less the activation of any resource-corresponding objects by a connection object. The very fact that Caves' AAL2 port and switch hardware modules are located between resource pool 63 and the signaling servers further indicates that Caves does not teach or suggest Applicants' software object activating another software object approach for reserving and activating resources of a node.

New dependent claims 82 and 85 pertain to execution of software objects for the connection on one processor of the cluster of plural processors. New dependent claims

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<sup>1</sup> Subject matter of claims 76 and 80 not included in new independent claims 81 and 84 remains in amended claims 76 and 80, which are now dependent claims.

83 and 86 pertain to execution of software objects for the connection on different processors of the cluster of plural processors. These new dependent claims are also supported, e.g., by the second paragraph of Applicants' Brief Summary portion of the specification.

### C. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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